



## Chief Guy Howie

### Hopkinsville Police Department

Guy Howie started his civilian law enforcement career with the Del City, Okla. Police Department in 1980. In 1982, he was employed with the Ocala, Fla. Police Department for 27 years. His assignments included the patrol division, detective and school resource officer. In April 2008, he retired from the Ocala Police Department after being hired as the Hopkinsville police chief. Howie is a U.S. Air Force veteran. He also is a graduate of the FBI National Academy 205th session. He is married to Debbie and they have three children: Mandy, Kyle and Jackie. They have one granddaughter, Aislyn. His son Kyle is a member of the Russellville Police Department.

#### WHAT MAKES YOUR DEPARTMENT STAND OUT ABOVE THE REST?

Without a doubt, it is the dedicated men and women of the Hopkinsville Police Department who make this agency one of the finest in Kentucky. Both the officers and the civilian support staff stand ready to take on any challenge placed before them. There is not a day that goes by I don't receive some type of positive comment about an employee or action the department took to improve the community. The best example I can give is recently the Hopkinsville Middle School students dedicated their yearbook to their school resource officer. The members of this department have embraced change and used it to improve the agency and the community.

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#### WHAT CHANGES HAVE YOU MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT?

First and foremost, we changed the culture from a reactive law enforcement agency to a proactive police department which is a part of the community. We created partnerships to address both crime problems and quality-of-life issues. We created a team-policing attitude by changing shift schedules from a fixed eight-hour shift to a 10-hour rotating days off shift. We instituted a data driven approach to crime and traffic problems. This allows us to more directly assign personnel to problem areas. By using this approach, so far this year the department has significantly reduced traffic accidents and, at the same time, reduced the amount of traffic citations issued. The department is piloting two new programs this year: the formation of

a traffic unit and teaching Gang Resistance Education and Training in our middle schools. Another significant change to the department is the great strides I've taken in upgrading officer equipment necessary to successfully perform their duties. The K-9 team has been expanded from one to four officers. Also, leadership training is now a requirement to be promoted. It is everybody's responsibility to train their subordinates to take their place.

#### WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT FEATURE YOU THINK EVERY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT DNA EVIDENCE?

First and foremost, what DNA evidence is. Other important features are how to identify DNA evidence, where it can be found, how to preserve it and how to collect the evidence.

#### WHAT ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2011 KACP CONFERENCE THAT YOU MAY LOOK TO IMPLEMENT IN HOPKINSVILLE?

This year, there was a big emphasis placed on intelligence and homeland security. With our proximity to Fort Campbell and recent events in our country as it relates to off-base attacks to military personnel, I have created a Homeland Security/Intelligence Section. This section will be responsible for all criminal intelligence received and distributed by the agency.

